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MONTHLY LETTER OF THE BUREAU OF ENTOMOLOGY  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

Number 55.

NOVEMBER, 1918.

ALLEN BOWIE DUCKETT.

Allen Bowie Duckett, Assistant Entomologist in Stored-Product Insect Investigations, and for more than seven years identified with the Bureau of Entomology, was claimed by pneumonia October 8, 1918. Mr. Duckett was appointed student assistant with this Bureau June 15, 1911. He served continuously until 1917 with the Office of Truck-Crop Insect Investigations, at that time being transferred to the newly organized branch of Stored-Product Insects. He was engaged in inspection of Army stores at the port of New York at the beginning of the war, continuing this work until the time of his death.

Mr. Duckett was born in Bladensburg, Md., March 9, 1891. He was a graduate of Maryland Agricultural College, at which institution he excelled in athletics and student leadership. Since his early life he demonstrated a high degree of interest in natural science, and in his chosen field, entomology, his work was most thorough and conscientious, promising to lift him to a high plane as an economic entomologist. His nature was quiet and unassuming, his character beyond reproach, and his disposition cheerful and generous. His untimely death has deprived economic entomology of a promising worker, and is mourned by all who knew him well. C. H. P.

TRUCK-CROP INSECT INVESTIGATIONS.

F. H. Chittenden, Entomologist in Charge.

In connection with the proposed eradication program that is being undertaken against the sweet-potato weevil in the Baker and Charlton area of Florida and Georgia, it has been found that much of the increased spread of the weevil takes place through the growing of slips for planting in infested areas, or their shipment from infested to uninfested areas for purposes of propagation. A plan has been devised in cooperation with the Florida State Plant Board, by which approximately 750,000 draws will be furnished to growers in the infested areas whose farms have been affected previously by the sweet-potato weevil. These draws will be furnished free to the growers, and will be grown from weevil-free tubers in uninfested localities. It is believed that by this measure growers will be encouraged to conduct a thorough clean-up campaign between now and planting time, and that a material advance in showing may be made by assisting the growers in this manner. The question of purchasing the plants is an important one to many of the poorer farmers, and it is doubtful whether effective control could be induced without this provision.

J. E. Graf, in charge of field work on the sweet-potato weevil, is now visiting Washington for conference.

O. K. Courtney, who has been doing extension work in Maryland on truck-crop insects, has recently been transferred to the Federal Horticultural Board, where he will undertake inspection work at one of the border stations, in connection with pink boll worm eradication.



C. E. Smith, in charge of the New Orleans, La., station of sweet-potato weevil eradication, is conducting a follow-up investigation with regard to a series of experiments undertaken under his direction in Texas.

H. J. Ryan, former extension agent on truck-crop insects in California, has resigned to take up work as horticultural commissioner of Los Angeles County.

Paul Starkweather, who has been doing inspection work in Georgia, has resigned to enter the army.

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#### DECIDUOUS-FRUIT INSECT INVESTIGATIONS.

A. L. Quaintance, Entomologist in Charge.

B. R. Leach, Bennett A. Porter, R. J. Fiske, and R. B. McKeown have been temporarily transferred to the Federal Horticultural Board to assist in scout work for the pink bollworm in Texas.

A conference was held at the Bureau of Entomology in Washington, November 12, in conjunction with the Federal Horticultural Board, to discuss quarantine and other matters in connection with the oriental peach moth. At this conference the present distribution of the insect was indicated, as based on the season's inspection work in the United States. It has been determined that the insect is apparently yet confined to the District of Columbia, upper Virginia, portions of Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Southern New York, and portions of Connecticut. Those present at the conference were C. L. Marlatt, Geo. G. Atwood, J. G. Sanders, W. E. Rumsey, W. E. Britton, Thos. J. Headlee, E. N. Cory, Phillip Garman, L. A. Stearns, Mr. Underhill, W. B. Wood, A. L. Quaintance, and others.

W. D. Whitcomb recently visited the Bureau during a period of leave from Camp Jackson, Columbia, S. C.

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#### SOUTHERN FIELD CROP INSECT INVESTIGATIONS.

W. Dwight Pierce, Entomologist Acting in Charge.

The lectures of the class in the Entomology of Disease, Hygiene, and Sanitation will terminate with the end of this year.

Mr. Hutchison and Doctor Pierce in cooperation with Lieut. A. Moscovitz of the Quartermaster's Corps of the Army, have submitted a report on the efficiency of modern laundry methods in the control of the clothing louse.

The appointment of J. Touhy as assistant in body-lice investigations has been extended to February, 1919.

Capt. A. H. Jennings of the Sanitary Corps of the Army visited Washington on November 23. He is stationed at Camp Shelby, Hattiesburg, Miss.

Max Kisliuk, Jr., has concluded his season's work on castor-bean insects at Miami, Fla., and after reporting at Clarksville, Tenn., for instructions will come to Washington to complete his reports.

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#### CEREAL AND FORAGE INSECT INVESTIGATIONS.

W. R. Walton, Entomologist in Charge.

Harrison E. Smith, formerly in charge of a field laboratory at West Springfield, Mass., but who afterward resigned from the service to enter private busi-



ness, has been reappointed to the entomological service, effective November 16, and assigned to the European corn-borer work in Massachusetts, with headquarters at Boston.

The corn-borer clean-up is being prosecuted vigorously at present, and some 60 men, principally laborers, are now employed in this control work, which is being conducted in cooperation with the Massachusetts State Board of Agriculture.

Mr. F. H. Gates has been transferred from the corn-borer work to the alfalfa insect investigations, with headquarters at the Tempe, Ariz. field laboratory.

The field laboratory formerly located at Charleston, Mo. in charge of Mr. A. F. Satterthwait, has been moved to Webster Groves, Mo. The address of the laboratory is as follows: 628 Yeddo Ave., Webster Groves, Mo. The present location is much more convenient than the former one, and is only 30 minutes' journey from St. Louis.

Dr. J. M. Aldrich, formerly attached to the field laboratory located at West Lafayette, Ind., has been transferred to Washington to fill the vacancy on the miscellaneous roll of the Bureau caused by the death of Mr. Frederick Knab. Doctor Aldrich has received the appointment of Honorary Custodian of the non-muscoid Diptera in the National Museum.

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EXTENSION WORK IN ENTOMOLOGY.

J. A. Hyslop, Entomologist in Charge.

During the last month the following changes in and additions to the personnel of the Extension Entomological Service have taken place:

Roy A. Epperson, who has been doing sweet-potato weevil work, has been transferred to the Federal Horticultural Board.

L. C. Griffith, who has been doing general extension work in the State of New York, has been transferred temporarily to the Federal Horticultural Board.

William R. Martin, who has been carrying on deciduous-fruit investigations in the State of Kansas, resigned November 20, 1918.

Earl Rannells, who has been engaged in the control of the oriental peach moth, resigned November 30, 1918.

Frank J. Rimoldi, who has been carrying on general extension work in Rhode Island, resigned November 20, 1918.

Jesse M. Robinson, engaged in deciduous-fruit insect control in North Carolina and Tennessee, resigned November 20, 1918.

J. Howard Smith, who has been engaged in the Oriental Peach Moth Investigations, resigned November 30, 1918.

Henry E. Bailey, who has been carrying on deciduous-fruit insect investigations, resigned November 15, 1918.

Karl M. Pack, has been appointed to carry on cereal and forage insect control work.

O. K. Courtney, who has been doing extension work in Maryland, has been transferred to Truck-Crop Insect Investigations.

A. C. Burrill, who has been engaged in extension work in Washington, has been transferred to Cereal and Forage Insect Investigations.

C. H. Batchelder, who has been doing extension work in Maine, has been transferred to Truck-Crop Insect Investigations.

William T. Ham, who has been doing extension work in Washington, has been transferred to Truck-Crop Insect Investigations.  
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FEDERAL HORTICULTURAL BOARD.

C. L. Marlatt, Chairman

The nursery stock, plant, and seed quarantine referred to in the October Letter, which has been discussed during the summer, received the approval of the Secretary of Agriculture November 18, 1918, and becomes effective June 1, 1919.

George Compere, one of the efficient port inspectors of the State of California, at San Francisco, has been loaned to the Federal Horticultural Board to investigate conditions at New Orleans and possibly Mobile to determine whether or not port inspection should be inaugurated and maintained at these ports along the lines now conducted for the port of San Francisco. It is expected that Mr. Compere will spend the months of January and February in this investigation.

No pink bollworm has been found in Texas this year and the Board is therefore joining with the Commissioner of Agriculture of Texas in a recommendation to the Governor of that State that the growing of cotton be permitted under certain conditions within the quarantined districts. These restrictions will involve complete control of the seed for planting and of the disposition of the crop produced in the season of 1919.

Doctor Hunter reports as a summary of the cotton clean-up work conducted in Texas up to November 15 that there has been expended during the season for labor for the destruction of volunteer cotton \$10,400 and for transportation of labor \$3,000. This work has covered 1,600 farms aggregating 30,000 acres. Altogether some 2,000,000 plants have been destroyed. This work will be completed probably by the end of November.

Messrs. Loftin and McKinney, who have practically completed a year's work in the Laguna station, will return to the United States for the month of December. They will work with Doctor Hunter in Texas for some two weeks and then report to Washington.

Mr. Busck has completed a survey of the principal cotton districts in Mexico and has found no extension of infestation by the pink bollworm. The invaded fields of last year nearest the United States opposite Del Rio exhibit this year very much diminished intensity of infestation. Mr. Busck's itinerary includes a conference at Mexico City and possibly additional survey work on the west coast of Mexico.

At the request of several States the Board in cooperation with the Bureau of Entomology of this Department held an informal conference on November 12, on the subject of the oriental peach moth. Plant-Inspection Officials of the following States were present: Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, and West Virginia. A committee was appointed representing the different States and the Bureau of Entomology of this Department to effect such interstate control as might seem necessary by mutual agreement. The representatives at this conference deemed it unnecessary at the present time to take any steps looking toward Federal quarantine action.

Messrs Sanford and Thomas will spend some three weeks inspecting the Plant Introduction Gardens at Chico, Cal.

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LIBRARY.

Mabel Colcord, Librarian.

New Books.

- Boerker, R. H. D. Our national forests: A short popular account of the United States Forest Service on the national forests. New York, 1918. 238 p.
- Bralliar, Floyd. Knowing insects through stories. New York, 1918. 291 p.
- Butler, E. J. Fungi and diseases in plants. An introduction to the diseases of field and plantation crops, especially those of India and the East. Calcutta and Simla, 1918. 547 p., illus., col. plates.
- Cameron, A. E., and Treherne, R. C. The pear thrips (*Taeniothrips inconsequens* Uzel) and its control in British Columbia. Ottawa, 1918. 51 p.  
(Canada Dept. Agr. Entom. Branch Bul. 15)
- Kerlosch, M., and Bernard, Ch. Mitjen-aantastigen op kina, thee enz. Batavia, 1918. 16 p. (Mededeelingen van Kina proefstation No. 4)  
(Mededeelingen van Thee proefstation No. 60)
- Egypt, Entomologist Locust destruction. Khartoum, May, 1914.
- Herrod-Hempsall, W. Bee-keeping in war-time. A practical booklet on the best and most up-to-date methods of bee-keeping. London, 1918. 32 p.
- King, H. B. The dura asal fly (*Aphis sorghi* Theob.) in Dongola province, Anglo-Egyptian Sudan. Khartoum, 1914. 14 p.
- King, H. B. The migratory locust (*Schistocerca peregrina*, Oliv.) and its control in the Anglo-Egyptian Sudan in 1915. Khartoum, 1916. 12 p.
- Locy, W. A. The main currents of zoology. New York, 1918. 216 p. Reading list of books and periodical articles on zoological subjects, p. 191-208.
- Parshley, H. M. Fauna of New England 14. List of the Hemiptera-Heteroptera. Boston, August, 1917. 125 p. (Occasional papers of the Boston society of natural history No. 7.)
- U. S. Commerce Dept. Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce. The export lumber trade of the United States. By Edward Ewing Pratt. 1918. 107 p. illus.
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